

COMMITTEE ON RULES OF PRACTICE AND PROCEDURE
OF THE
JUDICIAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED STATES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20544

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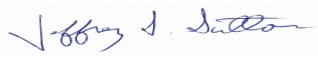
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M E M O R A N D U M

TO: THE BENCH, BAR, AND PUBLIC

FROM: Honorable Jeffrey S. Sutton, Chair

Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure

DATE: August 15, 2014

RE: Request for Comments on Proposed Rules and Forms Amendments

The Judicial Conference Advisory Committees on Appellate, Bankruptcy, Civil, and Criminal Rules have proposed amendments to their respective rules and forms, and requested that the proposals be circulated to the bench, bar, and public for comment. The proposed amendments, rules committee reports, and other information are attached and posted on the Judiciary's website at:

<http://www.uscourts.gov/rulesandpolicies/rules/proposed-amendments.aspx>

Opportunity for Public Comment

All comments on these proposed amendments will be carefully considered by the rules committees, which are composed of experienced trial and appellate lawyers, judges, and scholars. Please provide any comments on the proposed amendments, whether favorable, adverse, or otherwise, as soon as possible but **no later than Tuesday, February 17, 2015**. All comments are made part of the official record and are available to the public.

Comments concerning the proposed amendments must be submitted electronically by following the instructions at:

<http://www.uscourts.gov/rulesandpolicies/rules/proposed-amendments.aspx>

Members of the public who wish to present testimony may appear at public hearings on these proposals. The Advisory Committees will hold hearings on the proposed amendments on the following dates:

- Appellate Rules and Forms in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 9, 2015, and in Washington, D.C., on February 12, 2015;
- Bankruptcy Rules and Official Forms in Washington, D.C., on January 23, 2015, and in Pasadena, California, on February 6, 2015;
- Civil Rules in Washington, D.C., on October 31, 2014, and in Phoenix, Arizona, on January 9, 2015; and
- Criminal Rules in Washington, D.C., on November 5, 2014, and in Nashville, Tennessee, on January 30, 2015.

If you wish to testify, you must notify the Committee in writing **at least 30 days before the scheduled hearing**. Requests to testify should be mailed to the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, Administrative Office of the United States Courts, Thurgood Marshall Federal Judiciary Building, One Columbus Circle, N.E., Suite 7-240, Washington, D.C. 20544.

After the public comment period, the Advisory Committees will decide whether to submit the proposed amendments to the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure. At this time, the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure has not approved these proposed amendments, except to authorize their publication for comment. The proposed amendments have not been submitted to or considered by the Judicial Conference or the Supreme Court.

The proposed amendments would become effective on December 1, 2016, if they are approved, with or without revision, by the relevant Advisory Committee, the Committee on Rules of Practice and Procedure, the Judicial Conference, and the Supreme Court, and if Congress does not act to defer, modify, or reject them. Except as otherwise noted, the revisions to the Official Bankruptcy Forms would become effective on December 1, 2015, if they are approved by the rules committees and the Judicial Conference.

If you have questions about the rulemaking process or pending rules amendments, please contact the Rules Committee Support Office at 202-502-1820 or visit <http://www.uscourts.gov/rulesandpolicies/rules.aspx>.